



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Nicole Winger
(916) 653-6575

Secretary of State Debra Bowen Assigns Numbers to Ballot Measures Certified For the February 5, 2008 Presidential Primary Election, Invites Californians to Submit Ballot Arguments by October 9

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced proposition numbers for the three measures that will appear on the February 5, 2008 Presidential Primary Election ballot. She also invited interested Californians to submit arguments to be included in the state ballot pamphlet. All three measures qualified for the ballot through the petition process.

The statutory deadline for placing legislative and initiative measures on the ballot was September 27. The Legislature has chosen in the past to place a measure on the ballot after the statutory deadline has passed.

Elections Code Section 13115 sets the order in which the measures must appear on the ballot. Bond measures are first, followed by constitutional amendments, then other legislative measures, initiative measures, and referenda, with each listed within their category in the order in which they qualified.

The proposition numbers for the February ballot measures are listed below with the Attorney General's official titles and summaries:

Proposition 91

Transportation Funding. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Prohibits retention of funds earmarked for the Transportation Investment Fund in the General Fund for use unrelated to transportation after 7/1/08. Requires repayment by 6/30/17 of transportation funds retained in the General Fund in years prior to 2007-08. Eliminates General Fund borrowing of specified transportation funds, except for cash-flow purposes (repayment required within 30 days of adoption of budget); current law allows borrowing for three years where Governor declares transfer would cause significant negative fiscal impact on governmental functions and Legislature enacts authorizing statute. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: No revenue or cost effects. Increases stability of funding to transportation in 2007-08 and thereafter; reduces somewhat the state's flexibility to use specified transportation funds for other (nontransportation) activities. (SA2005RF0123)

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Proposition 92

Community Colleges. Funding. Governance. Fees. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute. Establishes in state constitution a system of independent public community college districts and Board of Governors. Generally, requires minimum levels of state funding for school districts and community college districts to be calculated separately, using different criteria and separately appropriated. Allocates 10.46 percent of current Proposition 98 school funding maintenance factor to community colleges. Sets community college fees at \$15/unit per semester; limits future fee increases. Provides formula for allocation by Legislature to community college districts that would not otherwise receive general fund revenues through community college apportionment. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Potential increases in state spending on K-14 education of about \$135 million in 2007-08, \$275 million in 2008-09, and \$470 million in 2009-2010, with unknown impact annually thereafter. Annual loss of fee revenues to community colleges of about \$71 million in 2007-08, with unknown impacts annually thereafter. (06-0030.)

Proposition 93

Limits on Legislators' Terms in Office. Initiative Constitutional Amendment. Reduces the total amount of time a person may serve in the state legislature from 14 years to 12 years. Allows a person to serve a total of 12 years either in the Assembly, the Senate, or a combination of both. Provides a transition period to allow current members to serve a total of 12 consecutive years in the house in which they are currently serving, regardless of any prior service in another house. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: This measure would have no direct fiscal effect on state or local governments. (07-0004.)

People may submit arguments for or against any of the ballot measures. Arguments selected for the ballot will be on public display between October 23 and November 13. If multiple arguments are submitted for one proposition, state law gives first priority to arguments written by legislators in the case of a legislative measure, and first priority to arguments written by the proponents of an initiative in the case of an initiative measure. Subsequent priority for all measures goes to bona fide citizen associations and then individuals. No more than three signers are allowed to appear with an argument or rebuttal to an argument.

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Ballot arguments cannot exceed 500 words and rebuttals to ballot arguments cannot exceed 250 words. All submissions should be typed and double-spaced. They may be hand-delivered to the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 1500 11th Street, 5th Floor, Sacramento, California 95814 or faxed to (916) 653-3214. If faxed, the original copies must be received within 72 hours. The deadline to submit ballot arguments is October 9 by 5:00 p.m. and the deadline to submit rebuttals to the ballot arguments are due by October 18 at 5:00 p.m.

For more information about the process and requirements for qualifying statewide initiatives, go to http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/initiative_guide.htm.

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